



PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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DA 05-3228

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**SECTION 272 SUNSETS FOR BELL SOUTH COMMUNICATIONS INC. IN THE STATES OF
FLORIDA AND TENNESSEE BY OPERATION OF LAW ON DECEMBER 19, 2005
PURSUANT TO SECTION 272(f)(1)**

WC Docket No. 02-112

The provisions of section 272 (other than section 272(e)) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the Act), applicable to Bell Operating Company (BOC) provision of in-region, interLATA telecommunications services sunset for the operations of BellSouth Communications Inc. (BellSouth) in the states of Florida and Tennessee by operation of law as provided in section 272(f)(1), effective December 19, 2005.

Section 272 of the Act requires BOCs to provide in-region, interLATA telecommunications services through separate corporate affiliates, subject to certain safeguards. 47 U.S.C. § 272(a)(2). Section 272(f)(1) provides that the provisions in section 272 (other than section 272(e)) expire three years after a BOC or BOC affiliate is authorized under section 271 to provide in-region, interLATA services, unless the Commission extends such 3-year period by rule or order. 47 U.S.C. § 272(f)(1).

The Commission granted BellSouth section 271 authorization for the provision of in-region, interLATA services in the states of Florida and Tennessee in an order released on December 19, 2002.¹ Pursuant to section 272(f)(1), the provisions of section 272 (other than section 272(e)) sunset by operation of law for BellSouth in the states of Florida and Tennessee, effective December 19, 2005.²

For further information, please contact Jon Minkoff, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-1580.

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¹ *Joint Application by BellSouth Corporation, BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., and BellSouth Long Distance, Inc., for Authorization To Provide In-Region, InterLATA Services in Florida and Tennessee*, WC Docket No. 02-307, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 17 FCC Rcd 25828 (2002).

² *See Section 272(f)(1) Sunset of the BOC Separate Affiliate and Related Requirements*, WC Docket No. 02-112, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 17 FCC Rcd 26869 (2002) (finding that section 272(f)(1) is best interpreted as providing for a state-by-state sunset).